

Message Text

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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA HAS REPORTED THAT HIS EUROPEAN TOUR WAS "A SUCCESS", BOTH THE ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL AND THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA SAY TODAY.

IN FRONT PAGE ITEMS, THE TWO NEWSPAPERS SAY THE PRESIDENT ALSO NOTED ON HIS ARRIVAL THAT THE TRIP WAS "THE TOUGHEST" HE HAD EVER TAKEN. BOTH PAPERS CARRY FRONT PAGE PICTURES OF DR. KAUNDA BEING WELCOMED AT LUSAKA'S INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WHILE THE MAIL ALSO CARRIED TWO FULL PAGES OF PHOTOGRAPHS IN ITS INSIDE PAGES OF THE PRESIDENT'S EUROPEAN TOUR.

MEANWHILE, CUBA'S FOREIGN MINISTER ISIDORO MALMIERCA HAS ARRIVED IN ZAMBIA. ON HIS ARRIVAL, MR. MALMIERCA IS REPORTED TO HAVE

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PLEDGED CUBAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE FRONTLINE STATES - ZAMBIA, ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, TANZANIA AND BOTSWANA.

ACCORDING TO THE TIMES AND THE MAIL, THE CUBAN OFFICIAL IS HERE TO BRING A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA FROM CUBAN LEADER FIDEL CASTRO. THE CONTENTS OF THE MESSAGE ARE NOT KNOWN.

FRANCE IS REPORTED TO HAVE ASSURED PRESIDENT KAUNDA THAT SHE WILL STOP ALL ARMS SUPPLIES TO SOUTH AFRICA, "WILL NOT SUPPORT THE APARTHEID SYSTEM OR ALLOW HER NAME TO BE USED" BY SOUTH AFRICA, ACCORDING TO THE MAIL.

THIS PLEDGE, REPORTS THE MAIL, WAS MADE BY FRENCH PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING IN TALKS WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA IN PARIS.

ZAMBIA'S MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DINGISWAYO BANDA, WILL SOON MEET ZAMBIAN-BASED LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO DISCUSS THEIR MANPOWER TRAINING NEEDS SO THAT THEY CAN GET FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION (ILO) IT HAS BEEN REPORTED HERE.

THE ZAMBIAN DAILY MAIL QUOTES MR. BANDA AS ANNOUNCING THIS ON HIS ARRIVAL FROM GENEVA WHERE HE LED A 13-MAN ZAMBIAN DELEGATION DRAWN FROM TRADE UNIONS AND GOVERNMENT TO ATTEND THE ILO CONFERENCE.

HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT THE ILO MADE AVAILABLE FUNDS TO TRAIN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL FROM THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN ZIMBABWE (RHODESIA), NAMIBIA (SOUTHWEST AFRICA) AND SOUTH AFRICA IN ORDER TO PREPARE THEM FOR TASKS THEY MAY FACE WHEN THEY BECOME INDEPENDENT.

THE MAIL REPORT SAYS THE ZAMBIAN MINISTER VIEWS THE ILO DECISION TO HELP TRAIN PERSONNEL FROM THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AS IMPORTANT UNCLASSIFIED

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AND HOPES THAT THE VARIOUS MOVEMENTS WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OFFER.

AN EDITORIAL IN THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA CALLS ON THE GOVERNMENT TO START NOW MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1979 COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE WHICH ZAMBIA IS SCHEDULED TO HOST.

THE PARTY-OWNED NEWSPAPER SAYS: "ZAMBIA'S HONOR IS AT STAKE, AND THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE. PREPARATIONS MUST START NOW IN ORDER FOR THE 1979 COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT IN LUSAKA TO BE THE SUCCESS ZAMBIA WOULD LIKE IT TO BE."

POINTING OUT THE ACUTE HOUSING PROBLEMS FACED BY THIS NATION, THE TIMES EDITORIAL NOTES THAT A "QUICK DECISION HAS TO BE MADE ON WHETHER TO UNDERTAKE ANOTHER "CRASH HOUSING PROJECT" FOR THE SUMMIT LIKE THE ONE CARRIED OUT IN 1970 FOR THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE.

THE PAPER SAYS THE DECISION BY THE LONDON CONFERENCE TO "HONOR ZAMBIA" BY HOLDING ITS NEXT MEETING IN TWO YEARS' TIME IN LUSAKA IS "NO MEAN FEAT FOR DR. KAUNDA IN PARTICULAR AND ZAMBIA IN GENERAL."

FOREIGN NEWS INCLUDES SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER PIK BOTHA'S WARNING THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN HIS COUNTRY AND THE UNITED STATES MAY RAPIDLY DETERIORATE IF THE US INSISTS ON A ONE-MAN ONE-VOTE SYSTEM FOR HIS COUNTRY AND EXILED RHODESIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP DONAL LAMONT'S REMARKS IN PARIS THAT RHODESIA IS A POLITICAL ABSURDITY "BECAUSE IT IS A STATE WITHOUT A NATION."

THE ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL CARRIES A FEATURE ARTICLE ON DR. LORETTA LONG, BETTER KNOWN AS "SUSAN OF SESAME STREET", WHO IS CURRENTLY IN ZAMBIA ON A WEEK'S VISIT. ITEM USIS LUSAKA.
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